Target of Tobacco Production

1356. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the established target for the production of tobacco for 1995-96;

(b) the production figures during the last three years; and

(c) whether Government is promoting export of tobacco specifically Virginia Flue Cured tobacco if so, the anticipated export quantum during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) As such, no production targets are fixed for tobacco. However, Tobacco Board in the Ministry of Commerce has fixed a crop size of 100.87 million Kgs. of Flue Cured Virginia Tobacco for 1995-96 crop season.

(b) The production of all types of tobacco during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 was 584.4, 596.5 and 568.8 thousand tonnes respectively.

(c) Yes, Sir. Anticipated export of Tobacco (including Flue Cure Virginia and non-Flue Cured Virginia Types) during 1995-96 is 69 Million Kgs. packed weight.

Permission for mining to NRI and Multi-National Companies

1357. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of NRI and Multinational Companies that have applied for permission for mining in the country;

(b) the number of such companies granted permission during the last one year and the details of agreement reached thereon; and

(c) the time by which these companies are likely to start commercial production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the various State Governments/UTs and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Centrally sponsored scheme on Cattle Breeding

1358. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken by Government for increasing the cattle breeding and also for fodder production;

(b) whether any centrally sponsored scheme is being implemented for the purpose;

(c) if so, the names of the States where such scheme has been implemented;

(d) whether the scheme has been sponsored in Orissa; and

(e) if so, the details of the steps taken in that direction during the Eighth five year Plan in that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (d) For increasing the cattle breeding and fodder development of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Extension Frozen Semen Technology and Progeny Testing Programme, National Bull Production Programme and Assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development Programme are being implemented in all States including Orissa.

(e) The State Govt. of Orissa has been provided central assistance of Rs. 12.00 lakh for upgradation of the Liquid Nitrogen Plant under Extension Frozen Semen Technology and Rs. 30.00 lakh for purchase of Castrators under National Bull Production Programme during 1994-95. A sum of Rs. 17.49 lakh has also been provided during the first three years of Plan under Progeny Testing Programme for Test-mating of bulls.